

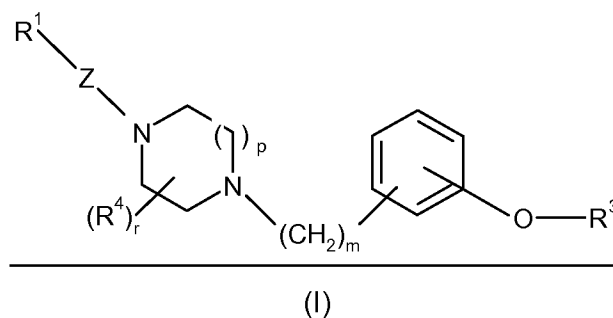
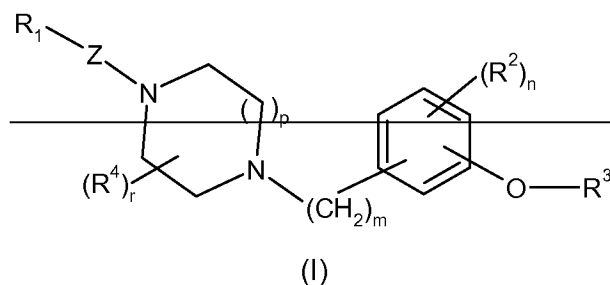
Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

In the Claims:

What is claimed is:

1. (Currently Amended) A compound of formula (I):



wherein:

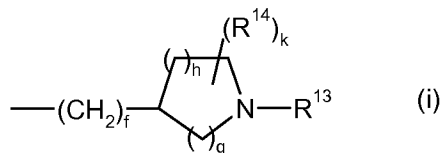
R¹ represents phenyl optionally substituted by one or more substituents which may be the same or different and which are selected from the group consisting of: halogen; trifluoromethyl; -C₁₋₆alkyl optionally substituted by COOR¹⁵; -C₁₋₆alkoxy optionally substituted by COOR¹⁵; hydroxy; oxo; cyano; -C₁₋₆alkyl-cyano; C₂₋₆ alkenyl optionally substituted by COOR¹⁵; C₃₋₇cycloalkyl; C₁₋₆alkylsulfonyl; C₂₋₆alkenoxy; C₁₋₆alkylthio; NR¹⁵R¹⁶; -C₁₋₆alkyl-aryl; aryl; -CO-aryl optionally substituted by halogen; -CO-heteroaryl; -CO-heterocyclyl; -COOR¹⁵; -COR¹⁵; -CONR¹⁵R¹⁶; and -C₁₋₆alkyl-CO-aryl groups; and in which R¹⁵ and R¹⁶ independently represent hydrogen, C₁₋₆alkyl or C₃₋₈cycloalkyl or together may be fused to form a 5- to 7-membered non-aromatic heterocyclic ring optionally interrupted by an O or S atom and optionally substituted by a halogen, C₁₋₆alkyl or C₁₋₆alkylC₁₋₆alkoxy group; Z represents CO;

r is 0;

p is 1;

m is 0;

R³ represents a group of formula (i):



wherein

f is 0;

g is 2;

h is 1;

k is 0; and

R¹³ represents C₁₋₆alkyl or C₃₋₈cycloalkyl;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

2 – 11. (Cancelled)

12. (Previously Presented) A compound according to claim 1 wherein R¹ is phenyl optionally substituted by 1, 2 or 3 substituents which may be the same or different and which are selected from the group consisting of: chlorine, fluorine, bromine; trifluoromethyl; methyl, ethyl, isopropyl, propyl, t-butyl (optionally substituted by COOH, COOMe or COOEt); methoxy, butoxy, -OCH(Me)₂, -OC(Me)₃ (optionally substituted by COOH or COOMe); hydroxy; oxo; cyano; -CH₂-CN; ethenyl (optionally substituted by COOMe); cyclopentyl; -SO₂Me; -OCH₂CH=CH₂; -S-ethyl; N(Me)₂; benzyl; phenyl; -CO-phenyl (optionally substituted by chlorine); -CO-azetidiny; -CO-tetrahydropyranyl; COOH, COOMe, COOt-butyl; -CO-methyl, -CO-ethyl, -CO-isopropyl, -CO-cyclopropyl, -CO-cyclobutyl, -CO-cyclopentyl, -CO-cyclohexyl; -CONH₂, -CO-pyrrolidiny, -CO-morpholiny, -CO-piperaziny, -CO-piperidiny, -CO-thiomorpholiny (optionally substituted by methyl, fluorine and -CH₂OMe); or -CH₂COphenyl groups; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

13. (Previously Presented) A compound according to claim 1 wherein R¹ is phenyl substituted by C₁₋₆alkylsulfonyl.

14. (Previously Presented) A compound according to claim 1 wherein R¹ is phenyl substituted by SO₂Me.
15. (Previously Presented) A compound according to claim 1 wherein R¹ is phenyl substituted by SO₂Me at the para position.
16. (Previously Presented) A compound according to claim 1 wherein -O-R³ is present at the para position of the phenyl group with respect to the rest of the compound.
17. (Previously Presented) A compound according to claim 1 wherein R¹³ represents isopropyl, cyclopropyl or cyclobutyl.
18. (Previously Presented) A compound according to claim 13, wherein R¹³ represents isopropyl, cyclopropyl or cyclobutyl.
19. (Previously Presented) A compound according to claim 14, wherein R¹³ represents isopropyl, cyclopropyl or cyclobutyl.
20. (Previously Presented) A compound which is 1-(4-{[1-(1-methylethyl)-4-piperidinyl]oxy}phenyl)-4-{[4-(methylsulfonyl)phenyl]carbonyl}piperazine or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.
21. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition which comprises a compound of formula (I) as defined in claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or excipient.
22. (Currently Amended) A method of treatment of diseases of the upper respiratory tract which comprises administering to a human in need thereof an effective amount of a compound of formula (I) as defined in ~~claims~~ claim 1 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.
23. (Previously Presented) A method of treatment according to claim 21 in which the disease is allergic rhinitis.

24. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition which comprises a compound of formula (I) as defined in claim 18 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or excipient.

25. (Currently Amended) A method of treatment of diseases of the upper respiratory tract which comprises administering to a human in need thereof an effective amount of a compound of formula (I) as defined in ~~claims~~ claim 18 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

26. (Previously Presented) A method of treatment according to claim 25 in which the disease is allergic rhinitis.

27. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition which comprises a compound of formula (I) as defined in claim 19 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or excipient.

28. (Currently Amended) A method of treatment of diseases of the upper respiratory tract which comprises administering to a human in need thereof an effective amount of a compound of formula (I) as defined in ~~claims~~ claim 19 or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

29. (Previously Presented) A method of treatment according to claim 28 in which the disease is allergic rhinitis.